

D&D Subgroup Highlights
August 4, 1998

This meeting was held in the ETB Wenatchee River Room starting at 9:00am. Detlev Wegener talked about the International Aerial Robotics Competition to be held at the HAMMER facility August 12-14. Thirteen university teams from around the world will be competing in this year's event at HAMMER. "Aerial Robotics" is a term used to describe a new class of small highly intelligent flying machines. In the past these have included hovercraft, helicopters, and balloons. The goal, or task, in this year's competition is to locate partially-buried drums, fire sources, simulated dead bodies, and simulated survivors of an accident. These objects are spread out over a five acre course that will have smoke, fires, water fountains and other obstacles in the way. Detlev encouraged all to attend at least one day of the event.

Science and Technology Needs

Greg Berlin distributed copies of the D&D S&T needs that have incorporated comments from the subgroup members. The needs will go to the STCG Management Council (MC) members for their review next week prior to the August 27 meeting of the MC. At the meeting, the focus will be on changes from last year's needs statements, as well as introducing the new needs for discussion. At the MC meeting Dave or Jim should mention that the subgroup has reviewed and endorsed these needs. There is an effort now underway to align the Technology Insertion Points (TIPs) that are related to D&D with the needs. Those needs that have TIPs associated with them will be highlighted. There are five TIPs from the FDH side of D&D that are linked to the needs, and BHI will also have some TIPs tied to the needs.

Greg reviewed the crosswalk for the D&D needs and highlighted the changes from last year. In addition, both Greg and Kim Koegler reviewed the changes that were made to the needs statements based on comments received from subgroup members and others on-site. The subgroup then reviewed the technology needs one at a time. The following are comments on each specific need discussed:

RL-DD017 - This need should be rewritten to focus more on segregation. Shannon Saget said that the need should be linked to the waste disposition map streams for the site.

RL-DD018 and RL-DD019 - With the work at C-Reactor being completed these needs have been satisfied.

RL-DD020 - This need for bio-control technologies will not be sent out this year, but will be held as a low-priority need for review next year.

RL-DD021 - This need from last year has been updated, but is a low-priority this year.

RL-DD026 - After meeting with the project engineers this need for portable rigging has been dropped.

RL-DD028 - This need for a vacuum system for radioactive sand and small rocks has been dropped. There may be technology already available and the issue is a regulatory- or cost-related problem rather than a technology need. This will be discussed at a later meeting.

RL-DD041 - This will not be a stand alone need, but will be added to RL-DD03.

RL-DD042 - It is unclear from the statement as to what the technology need is here. Need to talk about the functional performance requirements more thoroughly and the targets for cleanout. The

title needs to be more descriptive of what is needed. This needs a complete rewrite.

The science needs were reviewed and discussed next. Shannon Saget suggested that the science needs be run by the projects also. Bob Julian suggested changes to the titles for RL-DD045 and -049 to avoid confusion as to what the need really is. Two science needs were dropped from last month's list after further review.

A question was raised as to why the needs at the WESF were in the D&D list. They are operational needs rather than D&D. The WESF needs had no other place to be listed and D&D was the closest fit for them. It was suggested that any similarity in needs across the D&D, MW and Spent Nuclear Fuels needs be noted in the cover letter accompanying the needs to DOE. The subgroup thought that the information on CDI accompanying the seven CDI-related needs was very helpful and should be kept in front of these needs in the final package. Greg Berlin gave the subgroup members two more days for final review and comments.

Miscellaneous Updates

Greg Berlin distributed a table of TIPs for PHMC projects. There will be an RL milestone to insert technology into the baseline for each TIP. There is also a one-page form being developed for each TIP. There are five facility transition TIPs on the list.

The ASTD proposal reviewed by this subgroup dealing with the use of robotics in hot cell cleanout was ranked #16 out of the 53 ASTD proposals. The funding for ASTD proposals is not set yet and meetings are continuing to plan for next FY. A discussion was held with Fernald to see if their ASTD proposal (ranked #1) was similar to our hot cell proposal. Enough details were obtained to show that their proposal was quite different than ours. They are sending us information on their proposal.

The C-Reactor closing ceremony is to take place on October 15. The symposium on D&D that was to be held in conjunction with it has been moved to November/December. The C-Reactor closing will be coordinated with the B-Plant closing ceremony on October 14. It may be necessary to compress both ceremonies into one day if the DOE Secretary's schedule does not permit a two-day visit to Hanford.

Work on the Canyon Disposition Initiative is proceeding with the ANDROS robot to be deployed in U-Plant tunnel on August 18.

The subgroup will discuss the procurement barrier presentation that will be made at the September STCG Management Council meeting at the next subgroup meeting. One idea was to have Dennis Houston, BHI, present information on how BHI has been able to successfully procure and deploy new technologies in a timely fashion.

The next D&D Subgroup meeting is set for September 8 at 9:00am in the ETB Spokane River Room.

D&D Subgroup Meeting Attendees

Gary Ballew	Pacific Rim	946-0611
Greg Berlin	FDH	372-4352
Sue Garrett	PNNL	372-4266
Bob Julian	Ecology	736-5702
Kim Koegler	BHI	372-9294
Charlie Kronvall	BWHC	373-3309
Wade Riggsbee	YIN	946-0101
Shannon Saget	DOE	372-4029
Steve Weakley	PNNL	372-4275
Detlev Wegener	FDH	373-2021
Jerry White	BHI	372-9724